

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Activities of Mechanized Division EggesinEVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 6 October 1955REFERENCES                     PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. On 10 August 1955, 27 officer candidates of the political officers' school in Berlin-Treptow arrived at one of the mechanized regiments stationed at Karpin where they were to receive military training. Eighty-two recruits were recently assigned to the 2d Mech Regt. 25X1
2. On 11 August 1955, the reconnaissance company of one of the mechanized regiments returned from the Altwarp summer camp to Karpin. The unit had 2 armored scout cars, 6 sidecar motorcycles and 1 truck. On 15 August 1955, the AAA company of the same regiment which had 2 trucks and 11 AA machine guns was entrained at the Eggesin railroad station. The unit went for a week to Wustrow or Zingst where firing practices were to be held. 1 25X1
3. From 8 to 12 August 1955, the artillery units of the mechanized regiments and component units of the artillery regiment held record firing practices in the area of Jaegerbrueck. On 22 and 23 August 1955, the artillery battalion and the AT companies of the 2d Mech Regt held firing practices in the same area. They used dummy tanks as targets.
4. In mid-August 1955, the chemical defense unit of the division which was presumably quartered with the division headquarters in the area of the former RAD (German Labor Service) camp in Eggesin almost daily went toward Torgelow for field training. The unit leaving had 8 vehicles including a fire engine and two decontamination trucks.<sup>2</sup>
5. On 12 August 1955, 6 JS II tanks, 4 SU-100 tanks and about 8 SU-76 SP guns were observed travelling from Hoppenwalde to Karpin. They entered the woods east of the installation. It was believed that their destination was a depot which was located in this woods. On 18 August 1955,                      25X1

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were detrained at the Hoppenwalde railroad station where they were picked up by KVPs who came from Karpin.<sup>3</sup>

6. In mid-August 1955, the soldiers who were reassigned to the air-raid warning company still wore the service color of their respective former units. The watchtower near the Gumnitz billeting office was occupied by aircraft scouts at all times.<sup>4</sup>

7. After receiving adequate preparatory training by exercises at battalion level during the preceding weeks, one of the mechanized [redacted] left in closed formation in the morning of 28 August 1955 [redacted] Ahlbeck - Luckow - Rieth area where exercises at regimental level were scheduled to be held jointly with other units which included troops from Spechtberg and Prenzlau. In view of the existing shortage of drivers, the mortar regiment detached 18 drivers, and the division motor transport unit 10 trucks with drivers to the regiment for the period of the exercise. The ordnance and equipment of the regiment was as specified below: The 1st and 3d Bns had 19 trucks, 1 ambulance, and 4 field kitchens each; the 2d Bn and the reconnaissance company 12 Soviet-made three-axle armored personnel carriers, 2 of 3 armored scout cars, and an undetermined number of trucks; the AT company 4 Phaenomen trucks and four 57-mm AT guns; the mortar company 4 Phaenomen trucks and four 120-mm mortars; the AA machine gun company 9 trucks, some mounting AA machine guns, and 2 armored personnel carriers; the artillery battalion 15 trucks, eight 76-mm guns, 1 radio truck, 1 repair-shop truck, 1 ambulance, and 2 field kitchens; the tank battalion 19 T-34 tanks, 2 SP guns, and 15 to 20 motor vehicles; and the technical service company 12 to 15 trucks. The topic of exercises to be held before 4 September 1955 was "preparation of an surprise attack on an unprepared enemy". The exercise was scheduled to be subsequently repeated under consideration of the employment of atomic weapons. Temporary atomic defense shelters were allegedly already under construction in the assembly areas. The exercise was arranged as a training demonstration before officers of other states [redacted] the beginning of the exercise [redacted] arrived at [redacted] school and [redacted] remained in the billeting area of the [redacted]

8. The recruits of the 2d Mech Regt generally displayed a good state of discipline. The 22 recruits who had been assigned to the unit in August 1955, repeatedly refused, however, to execute orders which called for physical stress which were received during training. Occasionally, old enlisted men who were due to be discharged failed to appear for duty as they hoped they would be discharged dishonorably from the KVP or detailed to harvesting work during the days to come.

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9. For the duration of training at task-force level, the division was subjected to leave cancellation. Command-post exercises at division level were scheduled to commence on 15 September 1955. Component units of one of the mechanized regiments stationed at Karpin which were to participate in these exercises were ordered to leave their billets on 17 September 1955. It was announced that leave was also cancelled in an effort to secure the gathering of the crops.
10. From 22 to 25 August 1955, the status of training of 1st Mech Regt Karpin was inspected. High-ranking officers who came from Berlin and Pasewalk and the heads of several district registration administrations attended this inspection. Component units of this regiment were subsequently detached for harvesting work. The bulk of the 3d Mech Regt Karpin also engaged in harvesting work.
11. Starting in early September 1955, KVPs who were to be employed as drivers were no longer to be dispatched from Karpin to Altwarp for training, but rather to be trained at their respective units.<sup>6</sup>
12. From 21 to 27 August, 1955, the AAA unit under Rau (fnu) in Altwarp held record firing practices in the area west of the station which involved 37-mm AA guns and AA machine guns. Stationary and moving ground targets were used at these practices. In the night of 1 September 1955, the unit was entrained at the Hoppenwalde railroad station. The shipment included about 500 men, twenty-four 37-mm AA guns, 22 AA machine guns, some mounted on trucks, an undetermined number of trucks, and 4 field kitchens. The destination of the shipment was Kuehlungsborn. As early as 17 August 1955, an advance detachment had left for that place. Two 37-mm AA guns and about 50 men remained behind in the area of the installation.
13. On 26 August 1955, the drivers' school unit under Hecker (fnu) numbered 300 to 350 men. On the morning of 27 August 1955, 10 trucks of this unit left for Eggesin where an exercise was to be held. At the same time, about 50 percent of the men of this unit were absent for harvesting work.
14. On 13 August 1955, the summer camp east of the Altwarp am Haff installation was vacated. As early as 14 August 1955, it was reoccupied by a tank unit which numbered about 100 men and had 4 tanks.
15. In August 1955, Mechanized Division Eggesin, which was commanded by Major General Weiss (fnu), was organized into 3 mechanized regiments, 1 heavy tank regiment, 1 medium tank regiment, 1 tank instruction battalion, 1 artillery regiment, 1 mortar regiment, 1 AAA regiment, 1 reconnaissance battalion, 1 signal battalion, 1 engineer battalion, 1 repair shop for artillery ordnance, 1 tank repair shop, 1 motor-vehicle repair shop, 1 motor transport school, 1 medical battalion, and 1 field bakery.

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16. An 8-day exercise was held under the command of Major General [redacted] chiefs of staff and supply officers of all units of Mechanized Division Eggesin was allegedly scheduled for July 1955. It was intended to hold this exercise in the Gnoien - Demmin - Friedland area. The topic of the exercise was "the mechanized divisions within the first echelon of the corps attacking an enemy defending well improved positions, and employment by the enemy of atomic weapons." 8

1. Comment. A tent camp on the Haff near Altwarp has been mentioned in a previous report. 25X1  
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[redacted] See also paragraph 14 of the present report.
2. Comment. The chemical defense company of the division has been [redacted] in Section A of the Karpin installation. 25X1
3. Comment. [redacted] units JS II and SU-100 have been reported only from the heavy tank SP regiment of the division. Units known in Karpin include the mechanized regiments and the reconnaissance battalion. 25X1
4. Comment. The air-raid warning company whose activation has been reported [redacted] is also known as an aircraft reporting company. 25X1  
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5. Comment. SP guns in addition to tanks are reported for the first time from the tank battalion of a mechanized regiment of Mechanized Division Eggesin. It is believed that the term of technical service company is identical to the term of company for technical maintenance as used by previous deserters. 25X1
6. Comment. The so-called drivers' school unit under Hecker (fnu) in Altwarp is possibly being reorganized into a division motor transport unit. This belief is also supported by the fact that this year recruits have been assigned to this unit for the first time, while previously only trained soldiers have been instructed in driving at this unit. Reference is also made to paragraph 7 of the present report. 25X1
7. Comment. The organization of the division largely agrees with previous information; only some headquarters units are missing. 25X1
8. Comment. Other information indicates that, in July 1955, KVP exercises which are possibly identical to the command-post exercises mentioned in the present report have been held in the area between Rostock and Neubrandenburg. 25X1

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